



# Happy Holidays!



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"A free press can of course be good or bad, but, most certainly, without freedom it will never be anything but bad...Freedom is nothing else but a chance to be better, whereas enslavement is certainty of the worse." --Albert Camus (1913-1960)



Mroz Looks West, p. 10

# Mouth of the River

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## Tuition Students Cut for 1997-1998

Joe Beland

No new tuition students will be admitted to Oyster River High School as of the 1997-1998 school year. This measure was taken by a unanimous vote by the Oyster River School Board on November 6th to help lessen the space needs issue. This new policy will not effect any of the tuition students currently at the high school.

Jay Flanders, a school board member, commented on the issue, "The main reason why we decided to eliminate tuition students is because there were not any empty seats for tuition students, and hardly enough for the kids in or district."

Many tuition students feel that future tuition students should not make a difference because there is not a significant amount of tuition students to tip the scale either way. "This is only a short term solution, and I feel the school should make a more long term decision by considering that the school is constantly going to grow and that tuition students should be factored in that growth problem," commented Dan Bradley, a sophomore, and current tuition student from Deerfield.

The Oyster River School Board has recently voted to expand the high school. How they will deal with this issue is uncertain. Flanders, one of the two members who voted

See Tuition, Page 5



Photo by R. Tappan

By the coordinating of Peer Outreach, there has been a school-wide campaign to help the less fortunate during the holiday season.

## Students Spread Holiday Cheer

Cris Alvarez

It's that time of year again. The joyful holiday season when people splurge a bit of their hard earned money and relax. It's also that time of the year when people reach out and help those who are less fortunate.

For the last four years, Peer Outreach has organized a food drive during the holiday season. At Nurse Reeves' request, Mr. Whalen and Mrs. Houseman met with the Peer Outreach members and decided to run the food drive during Christmas this year.

Last Friday, the group set up receptacles in all homerooms. These receptacles will be filled with nonperishable food items. The food will in turn be distributed to local needy families. The homeroom who brings in the most food will be awarded with an unnamed prize.

## OR Board Votes to Expand

John Dubiansky

The common complaint about space needs at Oyster River High School is now in the hands of the School Board.

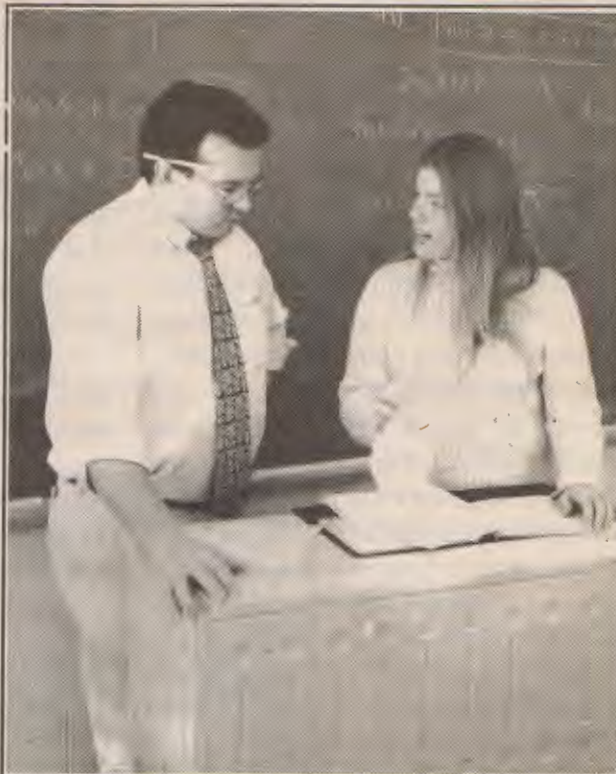
In October, the Space Needs Committee, along with the work of the Portland Design Team (PDT), submitted a report on ORHS' space capacity, along with a report on the school's plumbing, ventilation, and electrical systems. Their report said that much will have to be done to facilitate incoming students.

These plans conveyed a feeling to board members that expansion is imperative. The board voted five to two, Dave Brown and Jay Flanders against, for high school expansion. The board later took the action of proposing a warrant article to the district in March of 1997. The article

will ask for \$250,000 for an architectural plan for expansion. It is planned that these plans will transform into a bond in March of 1998, to serve as the layout for the expanded high school.

Many students have requests. The music department would like a large auditorium with the music rooms close by. The foods department would like to have the kitchen to be separate from the classroom so that they could hold class when other departments want to use the stoves. The wood shop wants a larger classroom and would like some computers.

Students are encouraged by all of the school board to attend meetings in order to voice their opinions on what is needed at the high school. You can also call the school board members; their names are in the phone book.



Mr. Whalen is just one of the teachers who has been forced to conform to the space problem at OR.

Also Inside: Zaidlicz On Scene of Bombing, p. 4; Mroz Plans for His Trip to the West, p. 10.



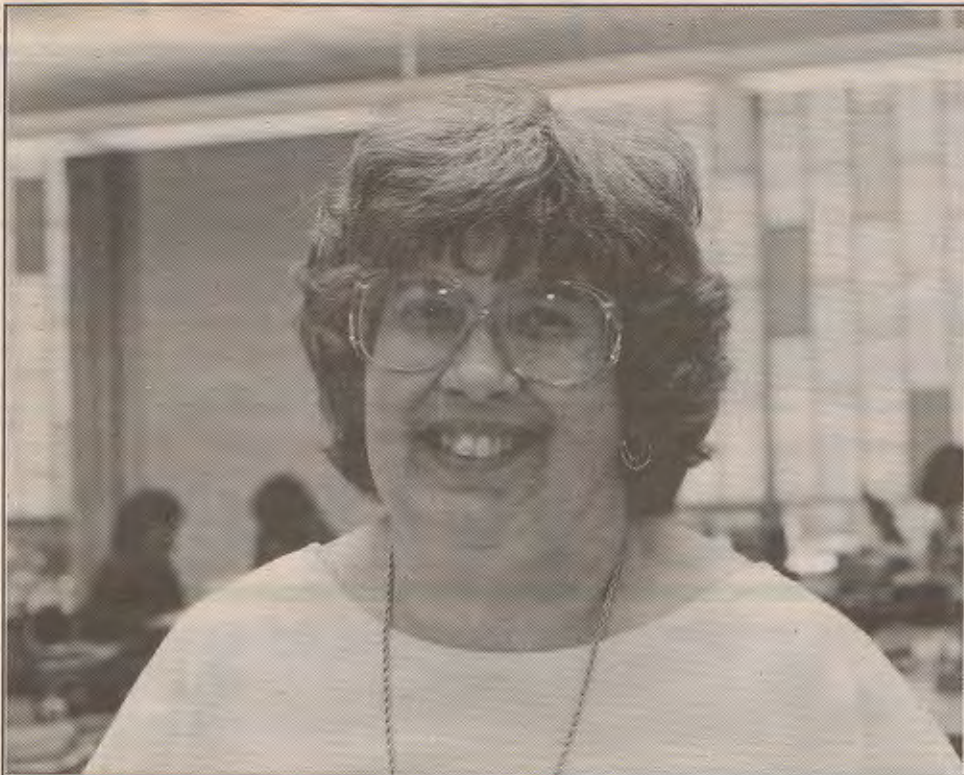


Photo by David Jackson

Ms. Susan Smith was recently honored for outstanding teaching in foreign languages.

## Weighted Grades on the Balance

### Kaitlin Gregg

Recently, the issue of weighted grades was introduced to the Senate. At the meeting, no formal motion was made. However, in a survey of 50 OR students, 56% expressed support for a weighted grades policy.

Many schools give greater numerical weight to advanced or "honors" courses than to others. ORHS does not weight courses differently when determining class rank. This means that all courses are graded the same way regardless of difficulty.

According to Mr. Lane, there are two schools of thought regarding the idea of "weighted" grades. He feels that the biggest problem with the idea is that there isn't an objective method of deciding which classes are more difficult. "If we as a school community can determine which courses have a higher level of difficulty, it may be a good idea," he said.

Ms. Winterbottom thinks that there are benefits of both a weighted and non-weighted system of grading. "I see some merit in a weighted system of grades," she commented. Her main problem with this type of system, however, is that there is large gray area between classes that are the clearly difficult and easy. She favors a non-weighted system because of the complexity of creating a weighted system.

The student body is widely split about the idea, and there are decisive arguments for both sides of the issue. Joe Beland, a sophomore, stated "I am in favor of weighted grades because I think it is unfair that people who are in accelerated classes do not get anything beneficial for taking these classes." Another student

pointed out that "No class is harder than another. It varies from person to person."

The faculty of the school also feels strongly about the issue. Mrs. Perry is opposed to a weighted grading system, again mentioning that there is no good way to decide which classes should be weighted and which should not. She feels that if such a system were in place some students would take weighted classes just because they were weighted, not because the students had the interest or ability to be there. She said another way to solve the problem would be to eliminate class rank, because some students think that it is not a fair system.

Ms. Morgan is also opposed to such a system, saying that it "says to some kids that they are not as good as other kids." She feels that it would "fragment the school community." She also mentioned that the transcript given to colleges explains that Oyster River doesn't have weighted grades.

Mr. Lord, the Foreign Language teacher, said he hasn't really thought about such a system, and would need the objectives and consequences explained before making a decision.

One main concern expressed about this system is its effect on the school community. Junior Kate Schier commented, "It may cause tension. It would create a class system where the 'smarter' people would be superior." There are no formal plans to research the topic of weighted grades, but it is apparent that it is on the minds of students at OR.

What are your views on weighted grades? E-mail us at MOR@Hawking.unh.edu

## OR Faces Accreditation

### Stephanie Schanda

While the students of Oyster River are planning Christmas break, a group of dedicated teachers will be putting the finishing touches on a 1200 page report on ORHS. This is just another step in getting the school reaccredited.

In April a 14 member visiting team will visit the school for 4 days to find out what the school is like. If ORHS is judged in poor condition, it could lose its accreditation, which is bad news for the students. Colleges use accreditation as a flag for better public schools.

Schools are judged in 10 categories: curriculum, climate, technology, library and media, facilities, community support, financial support, administration, and special education. "In Each one of the ten areas a committee comprised of faculty, students and community members investigate in-depth strengths and weaknesses in that area. Then a plan for remediation of weaknesses is established. I think the real value of this Accreditation process is the Self-Study portion which provides (Indeed requires) the opportunity to systematically review

what we as a school do." Mrs. McKay. Mrs. Perry added that the visiting team's role is to validate that study and to let us know if our perception about our program are correct. "It Should help us a great deal as we continue to explore new ways of doing things to know in what areas we are already doing well, and which we need to improve," said Mrs. Perry. The school is judged on strengths and weaknesses, the scores are recorded as excellent, good, fair and poor.

For curriculum for example, the school is judged on how well the classes work together, how well the interdisciplinary classes work together.

If a school gets one or two poor areas it gets a warning, this warning is tells them where they need to improve, if they don't improve things will be much harder the next time they get reaccredited.

If a school gets three or more poor areas it either loses its accreditation or gets a couple year probation. If the areas aren't fixed by then the accreditation is taken away.

## Mouth of the River

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Photo by Jenn Hogan

Shirley Thompson is one of the three community members who belongs to the Senate.

## What is Going on in the Senate?

### James Pistole

#### Judicial Board to Get Started

The Executive Committee has been busy revising the Judiciary Board document and will present it at the next Senate Meeting. The Judicial Board will be a group of students and faculty to whom students can appeal punishments given by the administration.

#### Activity Periods to Re-commence

Activity periods are back starting Tuesday. Yes, the results of the surveys you complete are

used. The School and Community Projects Committee will be scheduling regular activity periods throughout the year starting with our very own ORHS concert band and climaxing with a one-man volleyball team in early April.

#### Language Rules and Others to be Reviewed

Another discussion that the Senate asked you to have is being used to review the language rules at the high school. In addition to the language the School Rules Committee plans to look into rules re-

garding smoking, student possession of medicine in school, and pocket knives.

#### Decisions at ORHS

One of the biggest issues that the school issues committee is examining is that of the decision making process at ORHS. One component of this is the process by which rules are created by. Currently no process exists. Other issues that the committee is investigating include weighted grades and block scheduling.

James Pistole is the Senate Public Relations Chairman

For more information about the Senate, see "Senate Reflections" in the library.

### Homeroom Update

## Are They Working?

### Rob Heuchling

The teacher drops a box of donuts on the table and returns to his desk to correct papers. The kids swarm around the donuts, grab what they want and recede to separate corners of the room. Each class claims its own corner and four distinctly different and independent conversations begin.

Although student reaction has been mostly positive, changes to extended homerooms are being addressed.

According to a survey conducted near the end of last year, 278 students voted to keep homerooms, 121 voted to keep homerooms with changes, and 69 voted to drop homerooms altogether.

Ms. Rous, co-chair of the advisory council who came up with the new homeroom plan, said some faculty didn't put enough effort into homerooms. "They simply asked their kids, 'what do you want to do with this time?' and the kids didn't know. What is needed is in homerooms is more leadership from teachers and administrators or even students.

Ms. Rous said no changes on homerooms have been recommended to her or the committee. She also showed

some concern that maybe the advisory council hasn't met enough to discuss how homeroom has been going. She said for homerooms to truly work "People need to be committed to making it work. Everyone shouldn't be doing the same things, or even exactly those on the [goals] sheet, each homeroom needs to do things that work for that particular homeroom, while keeping the goals in mind."

"Last week was survey city. That's not right, homeroom is supposed to be a place to build community."--Mr. Quaglieri

Improvements in homeroom were noted by homeroom teachers this year. Mr. Lord of homeroom 103, said, "I

have a better reaction this year [to homeroom] than last year. The expectations were made clear in the beginning. We worked on a community project from the beginning which gave us a raison d'être (reason to be). I don't think, the students feel homeroom is a worthwhile or beneficial activity, but they do like it." Mr. Qualieri said, "Last week was survey city. That's not right, homeroom is supposed to be a place to build community."

Many homerooms recently grasped the holiday spirit. Ms. Rous' homeroom is sponsoring a needy family and holding a Yankee swap. Ms. Kisbaugh's homeroom made a food basket to give to a family for thanksgiving.

Last year many teachers reported at the end of the year the kids in their homeroom were "slowly building cohesiveness." Activities last year included: planting bulbs on school ground, playing kickball, doing group problem solving and activities, and freshman/upperclassmen buddying. According to many teachers too many surveys were issued during homeroom time. One of the reasons that homeroom was started was to give students a time and place to input their ideas on homeroom.

What are your ideas for extended homeroom periods? E-mail us at MOR@hawking.unh.edu

## Happy Times for SADD Program

### Christian Quint

Although many students do not know it, the Oyster River High School has a very successful and helpful S.A.D.D. pro-

gram. The Students Against Driving Drunk (S.A.D.D.) is a volunteer after school program that is trying to increase student awareness on drunk driving. Advocating things like a des-

ignated driver, not permitting a friend to drive drunk, and to never get in a car with a person who has been drinking are some of the many issues that the group covers.

The S.A.D.D. committee, which is lead by senior class president Katie Plimpton, is trying to implement many pro-

grams to help build awareness and provide education to students. "I am really excited about the group this year. Everyone is really enthusiastic and I think we are going to accomplish some great thing this year," said Plimpton.

"We are trying to get the students involved in our program," stated Anjuli Minocha, a senior member. Sponsoring a t-shirt design contest, trying to bring in guest speakers, and a "safe ride" program are all things that the S.A.D.D. program is trying to do to bring awareness to the dangers of drunk driving.

The S.A.D.D. program meets every Thursday after school in room 11. Everyone is encouraged and welcomed to come.

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Richard W. Renner, PA-C

David A. Hamel, PA-C

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Have a safe and Happy Holidays!

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LABEL ALL PRESCRIPTIONS





Students, faculty, and community members have expressed their strong feelings for Marcel Reeves over the past week. He will be missed by all.

## Moose: A Loving Husband, Father, and Coach

### Peter Beck

Marcel Reeves, "Moose" to his friends, father of math teacher Bill Reeves and husband to nurse Peg Reeves, passed away at his home last Thursday morning.

Mr. Reeves held a Ph.D. in entomology, the study of insects, and was employed at the University of New Hampshire. Even though he worked in a small, crowded lab, he made the working environment exciting with his enthusiasm.

"Moose was an incredibly enthusiastic person who inspired me to go the distance. I still have my 'Moose'

t-shirt with a collection of 'Moose' cheers that made him a legend with swimmers," said Matt Renner. "When Jeff MacLean and I were beginner swimmers, Moose was able to find our weaknesses and tailor our training to overcome them." Matt remembered him as "Charismatic. He always took kids aside after races when the disappointment of a loss was on their shoulders, and help them turn the situation into a positive one. He'd make you laugh."

"I remember Moose as a nice and patient person," said Kirby

Johns. "I started swimming at the age of six and he was the coach. He taught me the correct way to swim the breast stroke."

A memorial service was held at St. George's Episcopal Church in Durham and was attended by his family, many university associates, friends from ORYA, and friends throughout the Oyster River community.

If you or your family is interested in making a charitable donation in memory of Marcel Reeves, please make checks payable to the American Cancer Society.

## Close Call At Olympic Bombing

### Rebecca Soderholm

Rebecca Soderholm

At 1:25 a.m. on July 26, 1996, a pipe bomb exploded during the Olympics in Atlanta's Centennial Park. The sloppily made bomb sprayed nails and screws into the crowded park, injuring 110 people and killing two.

This was just three and a half hours after Oyster River senior Stephanie Zaidlicz and her family had left the park. The previous three nights, they had stayed there until one or two a.m., listening to music and having a good time.

Thirty minutes before the bomb went off, Atlanta security guard Richard Jewell found a backpack that was routinely treated as a suspicious item. It was found near the AT&T Glo-

bal Olympic Village stage, where the rock band Jack Mack and the Heart Attack had started performing ten minutes before.

"I just happened to be at the right place at the right time and doing the job I was trained to do," Jewell said later.

Jewell contacted an agent from the Georgia Bureau of Investigation who examined the bag and called in the bomb-diagnosis team. Upon discovering the bomb, FBI agents and the local police began to clear the park, slowly moving people away from the stage.

"We were asking them to get off the grass, saying we didn't know if the device was real," said an agent who was working that night. Before many people had moved, the bomb detonated.

See Olympics, Page 5



Photo by David Jackson  
Mike Troy has worked all across the country, and was a specialist during the Oklahoma bombing. Now, he teaches industrial arts at OR.

## From Okla. Bombing to the Halls of OR

### Mike Nolan

A new man has come from the ashes of the Oklahoma Bombing to share with us his knowledge of the industrial arts. Yes, Mike Troy is here as the new woodshop teacher and has quite the life story to tell.

Mr. Michael Troy started his first year at ORHS this September. He comes to the high school with a wide range of experience including fiber-optics wiring. This skill was the one which got him involved in the Oklahoma Bombing incident in 1994. More on this later.

Mike Troy was, at the beginning of his adult life, a self-employed contractor. Opening his own business as a senior in high school in 1978, he excelled in his profession of building houses for 12 years. He was then referred for a job teaching

basic wiring techniques to the employees at Connectivity Incorporated. This job was intended to last one week, but they were so pleased with his work that they kept him for nearly six years! While employed at Connectivity, Mr. Troy persuaded the company owners to invest in fiber-optics (thin glass wiring using light pulses instead of electricity).

This is where the bombing comes into play. He happened to be hired to wire up the temporary headquarters for the FBI and attach them to the site. He was given a photo ID to prove he belonged there and was in on many top secret scenarios. He stayed for about 6 days and was called away to another job location. He was called again later to wire up the permanent headquarters.

Helping people to escape the

treacherous conditions of the Oklahoma bombing in 1994, Mr. Troy knew what almost every person did not know in the country. Timothy McVeigh, the suspected bomber of the building, was not going to be tried in the area, lest he would be killed by someone seeking revenge for McVeigh's alleged actions. Mr. Troy knew where the trial was going to be held three months ahead of time!

Even after all the years working with wiring, he missed working with wood. He loved teaching theory, construction, and practical use of wiring, as well as working with wood.

Mr. Troy commented, "The faculty and staff are very helpful people. The students are very cooperative and help to make it an easy atmosphere."



Photo by David Jackson  
Stephanie Zaidlicz was in Atlanta during the night of the bombing at Olympic Park.



## How Important is Your Last Name?

**Chris Grassi**

If you were to be married, would you keep your last name, or take the name of your spouse?

Traditionally females give up their maiden name and accept the name of their husband. The world is changing. The youth at Oyster River High School

seem to like the traditional way. Ian Berry, a senior at ORHS, said "I'd be keeping my own name, thank you." When asked why, he said "there is no reason to change it." Ryan Samuel, a junior at ORHS, said she would take her husband's last name "for tradition and something new." These responses seem to be the most popular, yet of course there

are a few exceptions. Katie Plimpton, a senior, said, "In a sense you're losing your identity. I'm considering hyphenating."

Of the students and faculty surveyed, they all said that their mothers had taking their father's last name. Senior Christian Quint says, "It's the way it should be."

## Olympics

Continued From Page 4

Eight days earlier, on July 18th, the Zaidlicz family's trip started. Stephanie and her family had rented a van and started driving the night of the opening ceremonies. They drove to a small town in Virginia, where they stayed the first night and arrived in Milner, Georgia on Sunday. Their hotel in Milner was located 20 minutes from Atlanta.

The Zaidlicz's had tickets for equestrian, rowing, and basketball for the next three days. At the entrance to each event there were many searchers checking bags for bombs and weapons.

"There were security guards everywhere checking people's things, and I felt safe. It didn't

look like anything harmful could get by," Stephanie said.

Stephanie found Centennial Park to be a great place. She said, "It was a fun atmosphere. People were always dancing and listening to the live performances."

Other entertaining things in the park were the Olympic Rings Fountain, Coca-Cola Olympic City, Nike Town, and the AT&T Olympic Village. In the various commercially sponsored areas, visitors could see Olympic memorabilia including all the torches from the modern games, a movie on the athletes, and computer-simulated encounters with Jackie Joyner-Kersey and Shannon Miller.

During their trip, the Zaidliczes went to Centennial Park every day. On Friday, their last day in Atlanta, the adults wanted to go out to dinner, but the teenagers wanted to go to the park for that night's concert. They compromised by staying at the park until 10:00 p.m. and then they went out to dinner. If they had stayed there later, which was what Stephanie and her cousins had wanted, then they might have been there when the bomb went off.

Stephanie said, "It was scary when we found out. I felt so bad for the people who were there and got hurt, but I couldn't help thinking that we could have been there...That could have been us."

## Tuition

Continued From Page 1

against expansion, says, "I would, first of all, make sure that the building accommodated the students from our district, but if there was a little extra room, I wouldn't have a problem with [Deerfield students] coming back"

Joan Valentine, the school board's moderator, said, "It's too bad that we can't accommodate Deerfield anymore because the students from Deerfield enrich our school and the income that they provide is also very helpful."

The current policy regarding the acceptance of students from Deerfield is to accept 20 students per year, and committing to accept them for four years. The estimated net gain from the tuition students this

year is about \$310,000, according to the minutes from the November 6th school board meeting.

Liz Rosengren, a sophomore and a tuition student from Deerfield, wrote a "Letter to the Editor" in the November 21st issue of MOR, "The tuition money that the town of Deerfield pays the high school is a money-maker for the Oyster River school system and we will need the money to create our much needed space."

According to Valentine, "The reason we made the decision was because the high school is so overcrowded currently, and we will be getting more students next year in September, that we had no choice, but to not accept anymore Deerfield students."

## Your December Horoscope

**Abbi Green**

**Scorpio-Oct.23-Nov.22-** You may be experiencing some unexpected changes. Follow your intuition but don't let your scorpion nature lead you astray. Remember, Town Landing is a great place for a date.

**Sagittarius-Nov.23-Dec.22-** Prioritizing seems to be a difficult thing for the archer this month. Seek for help from those close to you; they'll be understanding and help you to focus. Avoid people named Guido, Marquis, Euclid, and Samsonite.

**Capricorn-Dec.23-Jan.19-** You may be feeling left out lately while others are in the spotlight. Avoid jealousy, papa smurf, allow others to enjoy the attention and remember to wear whities.

**Aquarius-Jan.20-Feb.19-** You seem to be pushing yourself to the limit. Be sure to get plenty of rest to prepare for the upcoming holidays. Chinese food is a great source of energy.

**Pisces-Feb.20-Mar.20-** Things seem to be looking up for you lately.

Don't let little things upset you and remember the glass is always half full. For an extra treat, leave your pager on the vibrate mode while trying not to disturb others.

**Aries-Mar.21-Apr.19-** Your strong nature seems extremely prominent now. Don't forget to be sensitive to others and you'll

avoid conflicts. Two words: Breath mints.

**Taurus-Apr.20-May20-** Things seem to be falling into place for the bull this month. Enjoy yourself but be sure not to lose control. Avoid pork fried rice, and guys named Euclid.

**Gemini-May21-June20-** You seem to have extra energy this month: Use it. Be careful not to overshadow those around you and don't forget to listen as much as you speak. Hint: To avoid embarrassing foot fungi, bring your own bowling shoes, never rent.

**Cancer-June 21-July 22-** Life seems to be rather dull for the crab lately. Don't fret, it will pick up shortly and you'll be Mackin' like before.

**Leo-July 23-Aug. 22-** Your lion spirit is alive now. Avoid being careless and be sure to always think before you speak. Don't be afraid to pop that zit!!

**Virgo-Aug. 23-Sept. 22-** You feel rather reserved this month, which may be a good thing. Be wary of other's ideas, they may not have your best interest in mind. As high as you can jump touching the awnings won't impress her.

**Libra-Sept. 23-Oct. 22-** You may feel somewhat tied down this month by others around you. Be patient, and soon they'll feel as you do. It is your attitude, not your aptitude, that determines your altitude.



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## Santa Claus No Longer Resembles Christmas, but Fifth Avenue

St. Nicholas: The bumptious, benevolent, boisterous, bearded man in the bright red suit. His wit and generosity combine to explode over the world, leaving gifts to elated children and working parents. He is jolly. He carries our hearts through the holiday season on his sleigh. His nine reindeer, with their jingling bells, land lightly on our rooftops to deliver their love. St. Nick is the fantastic figure of December's society. Unfortunately, the commercial image of this fervent fantastic figure has replaced the true holiday spirit.

St. Nick's marketing image, created by Haddon Sundbloom, first appeared on a Coca-Cola can in 1933. Solidly sticking to the floor of America, this enticing image of St. Nick became a concrete religious monument. We worship the Coca-Cola Claus. Society turned the wandering fantasy, Santa, into a tangible figure. We have pinned him down. We have turned an ambiguous spirit into the shape of a human. America has defined a religious paradigm with pixels on a soda can.

With the materializing of St. Nick also came the crystallization of his morals. We now show love with presents. A wrapped gift symbolizes what once was an invisible spirit. Kindness during the holidays has turned into a requirement for receiving money and toys.

We have economized Saint Nicholas. We can buy him in a store. We can stamp him on our envelopes. He is a celebrity. We can pin him on our shirts. We paint him on billboards. This commercialization defeats the holiday purpose. It has turned Christmas into a time of gift exchange and financial distress.

This Christmas marks the one-hundredth anniversary of the famed, "Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus," editorial ran by the *New York Sun* in 1896. This antique editorial responded to a question asked by society, worded by a woman, and sent to the paper: "Is there a Santa Claus?" The New York press valiantly responded. The newspaper molded a model by which Santa and the holidays should be regarded: They explained that selfless Santa would exist as long as the altruistic holiday spirit exists. How clever. How true.

Remember during December that you are not celebrating the red man in the suit on the soda can, but the presence of certain morals and values associated with the holiday season. Perhaps the best gift you can offer this Christmas is a reminder to those around you of the values that make Santa an icon. If the love is in your home, and the giving and sharing exists between your family members, then don't stay up late to see Santa Claus come down the chimney, trust that the milk and cookies will be gone by morning.

Jamie Renner

## Cris Alvarez and Abbi Green Give Advice: How to Hook UP

### Cris Alvarez

In my four years in this school, and my three at the middle school, I have been introduced to and learned many skills of life. I have learned about The Philippine Insurrection, Le Petit Prince, and how to take the derivative of a trigonometric function (okay Mr. Stoyk, I'm still working on that one.) I have also made one very important discovery. Monumental even. I have learned how to get girls.

All right guys, here it is. Listen up and listen good. For the rest of you guys who don't have girlfriends, this is where you need to start paying attention. You may even want to cut this out and keep it with you. Here are a few tips and rules you might find helpful when looking for that special someone.

1. Don't lie. Girls like honesty. For example, when she asks you if she looks fat in that certain dress... Girls value your opinion.

2. When at dinner, make it a point to always order for her. Girls can often be indecisive, they appreciate your leadership and genuine guidance.

3. When she asks, "who was that on the phone?" Always mutter under your breath, but loud enough for her to hear, "nobody." Girls like a mystery man.

4. When you go to pick her up for your first date and you're faced with, "I'll be ready in a minute," just leave. This is just one of her tests. Most other guys would wait, you will show her you're a man who knows where he's

going and has a sense of direction.

5. Never pay for her on a date. In this new age of women's independence, show her you're hip to that and that you understand.

6. When she asks you to help her with her homework, have her do hers and yours. Show her you're impressed with her intellect.

7. Also, when she tells you she wants, "to go out with the girls," respect her wishes. Besides, she's only going to brag about you all night.

8. Being attentive is also good, but stalking is better. Girls can often times be vain, they love the extra attention.

9. Girls also need their space. Have them ride in the back and they will soon realize you are the man of their dreams.

10. Tell her you love her, even if you don't. Girls like to hear that kind of stuff.

11. Regardless of her reaction, she really is impressed with your cool car and your vast knowledge of football so tell her more. Girls like it when guys can read their reaction.

Guys, follow these rules, for they bear the same importance of the holy scriptures. Live by these rules and you will have girls crawling to you. Trust me, I know what I'm talking about. Now, most of you who are reading this and don't know me might be thinking, "yeah, he knows a lot. He's a squid saying all that stuff, and he doesn't even have a girlfriend." Well, here's the story. Because my standards have elevated to such high levels, I had to go outside

this building looking for a girlfriend. I had to go to college girls. Lo and behold I found the perfect one in Blacksburg, Virginia.

### Abbi Green

Throughout my time at OR, I also have been witness to many flaws in females' attempts to catch the attention of that certain someone. This article should offer some insight to the male psyche.

1. It is important to remember that you are in charge. No matter what he or his friends say, he will listen and follow your lead. Behind even the biggest of men, there is a lost little boy in dire need of your expertise and guidance.

2. Once you have a boyfriend, it is necessary to constantly keep him on his toes; make him appreciate you. The best way to accomplish this is to flirt with other guys; his close friends work best. This will show him that you are desired, and that he should feel privileged to be in your presence.

3. A good tactic to get his attention is to block out the sports channels on his TV. Teach him to appreciate the activities you two can share, like shopping.

As you can see, getting a guy isn't nearly as difficult as some make it out to be. If these simple steps don't work, the solution is simple; Don't waste your time. He probably isn't worth it, and we don't really need men anyway.

Cut Along Dotted Line And Save

## A Little Advice: Tips For A Stress-Free Holiday

### Jen Lancaster

Tis' the season for relaxation and stress free living. A little stress can be good because it puts pressure on yourself to do better, but too much stress is hazardous to your health. Say goodbye to stress during your holiday break.

This holiday, don't be a Scrooge. Instead, bring tidings of comfort and joy to everyone

around you. When you think you are starting to feel stressed, remember that "stressed", spelled backwards, is "deserts"; run to the cookie jar and expunge stress from your life. Smile a lot and spread holiday cheer. Keep a twinkle in your eye while you dash through the snow.

This vacation, don't be afraid to leave things that can be done tomorrow for tomorrow; the world will keep on spinning whether chores are done early

or not. Live for the moment and appreciate the little things. If you are starting to feel stressed because you can't afford the perfect gift, remember that the best gifts are free. A handmade card filled with lots of love and wrapped with a big hug is often more memorable than those made of plastic.

Snuggle by a fire with a loved one and watch "It's a Wonderful Life," then ring a bell from time to time to help and angel get her wings. Doing things for

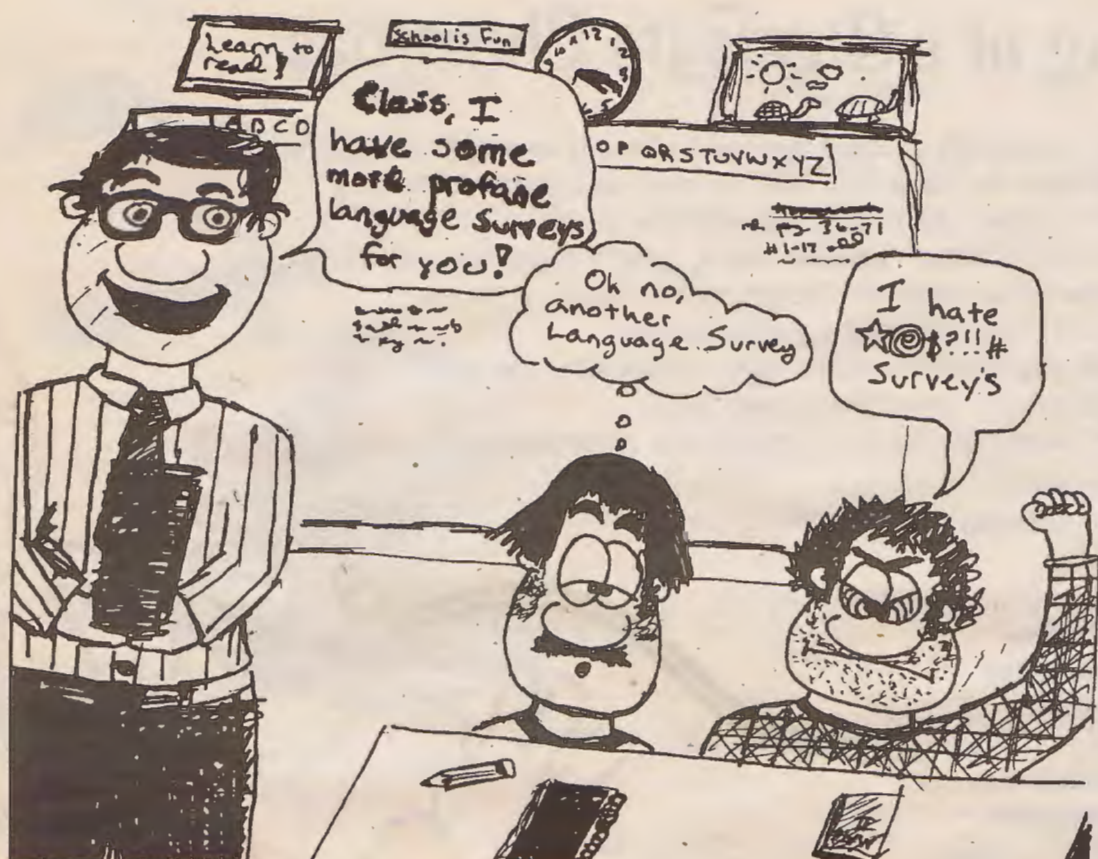
other people will make you feel like your life has added meaning.

When you lie in bed at night, dream of a white Christmas and realize how grateful you are to have some place warm to sleep. Hang mistletoe above your door and deck your halls with boughs of holly. Try to spread your "stress-free-vacation" feeling with others and buy everyone a round of hot chocolate. Take your little brother or sister out and build an entire winter won-

derland. Lay in the snow and create a snow angel and catch snowflakes on your tongue, and while your down there, wish upon a star. Never stop believing in anything or anyone; miracles happen everyday.

Did you do anything to make someone else's life better? E-mail us at [mor@hawking.unh.edu](mailto:mor@hawking.unh.edu)





Josh Winslow

To the Editor-In-Chief

After reviewing the November 21, 1996 issue of the *Mouth of the River*, I must make a suggestion on how to improve it—change the title. Something along the lines of *Mike Beland's Point of View* seems appropriate, considering how he seems to be the only one who gets to express his opinions in it.

From talking to members of the journalism classes, I became aware of the fact Mike writes all the headlines, photo captions, many commentaries, and extremely biased editorials (which I already knew). I also found out he has lost articles and rearranged the layout without approval. Can we say *monopoly* (which, by the way, is prohibited by the Constitution)?

A school newspaper is supposed to reflect the entire school community, not just one person's take on it. Editorials are fine—people are entitled to their opinions. It would be nice, however, to see someone else's side of the story.

I understand running something as important as a newspaper is a hard job, one with too much responsibility for one person alone. Why not let your other editors and reporters do their jobs? Isn't that what they're for? Do your job, and let them do theirs.

Respectfully,

Anonymous But Not Alone

PS—News reporting is no place for male jokes. Keep your testosterone out of the paper and on a football field where it belongs.

We, the editors of MOR are encouraged that the student body is being affected by what is or is not written in the paper. We appreciate any suggestions from anyone who has ideas about the paper.

We are very proud of the paper as it is now, but we understand that there is room for improvement. Specifically, we understand that we need to do a better job of including articles that reflect the entire school community.

We were able to find ways to improve the paper as a result of receiving the letter, despite the fact that it didn't offer any suggestions, other than to "change the title to 'Mike Beland's Point of View'."

One aspect of the letter that didn't sit well with us was that it contained information that was, quite simply, inaccurate. We all put in countless hours working on the paper, and the idea that the paper is produced by "one person alone" is upsetting, to the entire editorial staff.

If the information in the letter was properly researched, the writer would know that Mike does not write all the headlines or photo captions. Furthermore, the number of commentaries that Mike has written is comparable to that of other editors.

We would like to thank the author of the letter, and encourage anyone else who has ideas about the paper to write us. We are excited about the fact that people are now concerned with the content of the paper, as well as the appearance. In the future, these letters must be signed. Remember, thoughts about the paper can be submitted directly to the editorial staff, or e-mailed to us at [mor@hawking.unh.edu](mailto:mor@hawking.unh.edu), and do not necessarily need to be printed in the paper.

Sincerely, The Editors

## Give Me Peace, Give Me My Orange Juice

Michael A. Beland

Let's say that I wanted to have a tall glass of orange juice in the morning, like any other normally functioning human being. I drink it, I enjoy it, I kiss my mother as I go out the door to school. To say the least, the kick of Vitamin C has made me happy on this fine, winter morning.

When I arrive at school, I walk upstairs and greet my friends who sit with me on the upstairs level. I prepare for first period: Math.

It is halfway through the "New Lesson" in Ms. Tag's class; the excitement is high, as we discuss the many interesting (and world changing) facets of trigonometric functions. Halfway through the entertainment, I am uncomfortable. My morning of pleasure and glee is now suspended at the whim of an urgent bladder.

I sit in my chair; it's 8:06, I figure I can hold it. After several changes of seating positions, a red face, and the tantalization from the pouring rain outside, I have no options left, "Ms. Tag, I need to go to the bathroom." I do not wait for a response, I am booking it straight down the hall towards the bathroom across from Ms. Gibson's room.

I imagine my urinary oasis: A place filled with stalls, toilet paper, urinals, and, sporadically, towel dispensers filled with towels.

I have passed Ms. Smith's room as French II students recite a new phrase they have learned: "Puis-Je aller au W.C.?" It could not be more timely.

I pass a few students near the glamorous "Senior Showcase", and a student spills tea; the urgency is now insurmountable.

I reach the door. Unlike the usual sky-blue greeting I get from the rays of light when I

enter the bathroom, I run directly into a locked door, colored by a tint of brown that resembles the color of the chair in my dentist's office.

To make an often times long story short, I did, however, make it to the downstairs bathroom, running at a pace that would make Beth Kraft jealous.

When I approach an administrator at lunch, I ask, "What's up with the bathrooms?" Their response is stoic,

"We have to keep students from smoking in the bathrooms." They have no clue as to what I have been through.

This new "closed door" policy is the

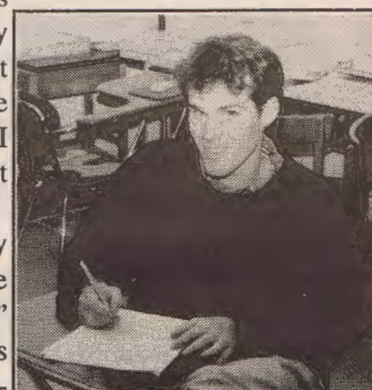
typical "Punish the masses for a faction's problem" action that our society practices. It seems strange to me that 100 males on the upper floor cannot go to the bathroom in the morning because less than 15 students are smoking "dans le W.C."

We have experienced this innocent victimization in our school before: Because a small group of students decided to take more than one salad when they had paid for only one, we are all forced to punch holes in our salad bowls; a few acted immaturely, we are now all treated like first graders.

Like any cogent complaint, I have a solution: By my count, there are at least two teachers who plan their days during first period in the computer room. Could one of those teachers set up a desk, like last year, and monitor the bathrooms while planning their schedule?

This solution would tame the guilty, and the innocent would be welcomed to school each day by the light-blue in the boys' bathroom, opposed to a bolted shut door.

As a school, we must change our disciplinary discourse to ensure that only the guilty are punished. The innocent need a break, and so do their bladders.



We want to hear what you are thinking. Send "Letters to the Editor" to room 113, or to [mor@hawking.unh.edu](mailto:mor@hawking.unh.edu)



# While visions of cyberspace

## I'm Dreaming of a GigaByte Christmas

Double-Track  
Mariah Shields, Joe  
Dan McClain, Jenn  
and Josh Evar

The O.R.H.S. Technology Committee decided this fall to launch an ambitious project: to raise money through private donations, corporate fund-raising, and grants to outfit a new computer lab with 25 Power Macs with DOS compatibility cards.

Such a system would work for Windows and for Macs, greatly reducing conversion problems between IBM and Macintosh systems. Ms. Kendree Parker, a parent volunteer, is helping in a initiative to outfit a new computer lab.

Along with Justin Mayrand, the O.R.H.S. technology coordinator, she is working with several interested faculty members to plan such a system and to seek funding through the means of grants and corporate sponsors. The mission that lies ahead is to get a state-of-the-art computer lab that anyone in the school can use. This is to involve networking, e-mail, internet access, and all types of software and hardware capabilities that the student of this school need to accomplish their work.

Principal Christopher Cairns is enthusiastically supporting the initiative.

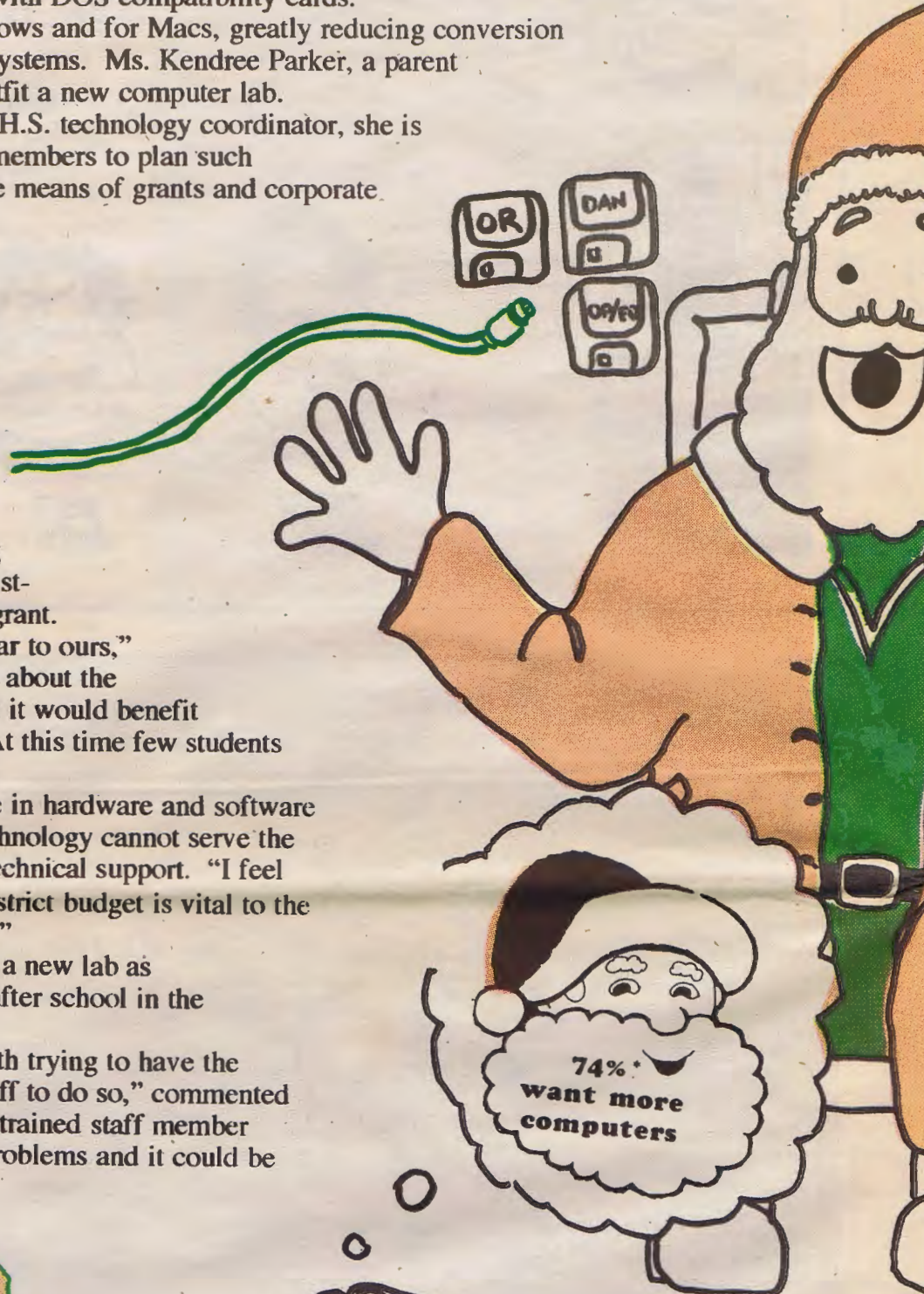
"the last school that I was at was going through the process of upgrading the existing lab with a hundred thousand dollar grant.

They were in a situation that is similar to ours," said Mr. Cairns. He was very optimistic about the idea of a new computer lab. "I feel that it would benefit the classes that really need computers. At this time few students have regular access to them."

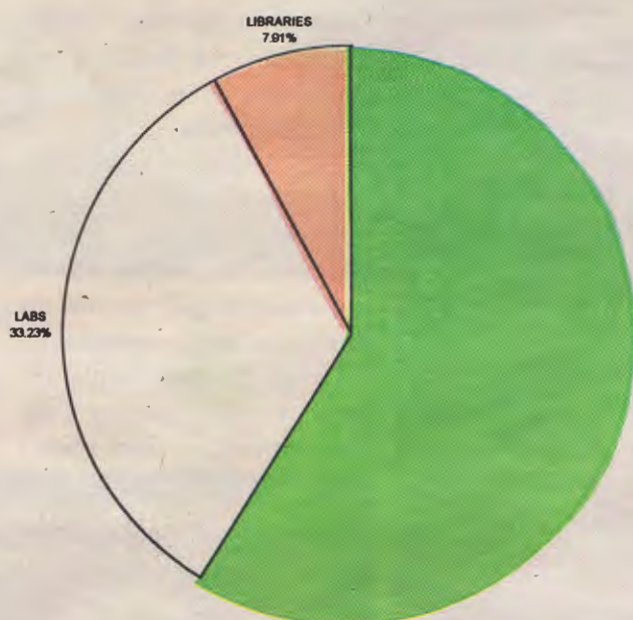
Mr. Cairns said that a major increase in hardware and software is needed. However, he believes that technology cannot serve the students well without maintenance and technical support. "I feel that the support that we receive in the district budget is vital to the upkeep of any lab that we might receive."

Some community members hope that a new lab as well as the media center might be open after school in the future for community use.

"The problem that we have found with trying to have the library open is that we don't have the staff to do so," commented Mr. Cairns. "Without a technologically trained staff member there at all times, we would find more problems and it could be counter-productive."



## How are computers used now?



CLASSROOMS  
LABS  
LIBRARIES

CLASSROOMS  
58.89%



Many O.R. classes now re

At ORHS many classes revolve around the internet to pull resources quickly. physics use computers.

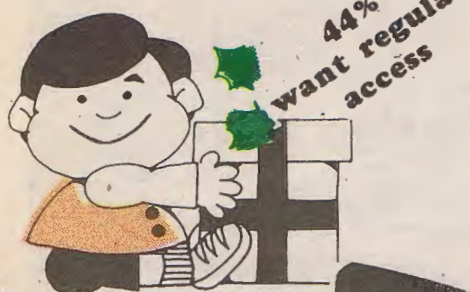
English courses use computers to and compose different projects. Also required to be done on a word processor.

"We have a tough time teaching technology," said Mr. Tappan, ORHS. students the experience and training in computer skills when you can not access bottleneck in Printers' Shop and the n



# e danced in their heads. . .

y:  
utima,  
ogan,



by Marriah Shields

## If you think we've got it bad. . .

According to the 1994-95 technology survey of NH schools, the average ratio of students to "new" computer systems is 1 to 21.7. Oyster River has a 1 to 8.3 student to computer ratio. Although this may make OR look like it is in the better percentage of NH schools, there are new programs arriving yearly that require more quantities and more quality computers.

Neighboring Dover High School has an average of 12.3 students to a computer. DHS is known for its vocational programs in which several classes use technology everyday. In that section of the school, the technology has to be the newest material available. This means that much of the technology budget goes to the vocational program, leaving the rest of the school with few state-of-the-art systems.

## Corporate America is looking for computer-literate students

Everywhere in business, in the military, in research labs, in theater, the arts, advertising and publishing, America expects proficiency in computers. There is no substitute for hands-on experience. Are we providing it?

"It would be hard to conduct constructive classes with [12.3] students to a computer," said Mr. Quaglieri, a computers teacher at Oyster River.

"I guess it depends on what kind of computers there are and what kind of classes were required to graduate. The computer room at ORHS gets pretty full sometimes with an average of 8.3 student to a computer. I can't imagine what it would be like with 12.3 or higher."

In contrast, Portsmouth High School has an average of about 6.8 students to a computer. The technology at Portsmouth is very modern. They just built a new computer lab which is available for a teacher to sign up for, for their whole class to go to.

If this happens, then the student could go to the computer room where there are other computers available or the library. The lab is always open to students during lunch. If a teacher does not sign up for lab time, then it is open lab and anyone can use it.

All of the computers in the lab are new, and in the rest of the building they are one or two years old. All computers have access to the internet.

## The ratio of computers vs. students can be misleading

"Someone is just counting machines and students. They don't see that kids don't get to use the machines during the day because they are full with computer classes.

I think that every classroom should have computer systems enough for everyone to use with a partner. Two people to a computer isn't bad, but two computers to a class is bad."

- Ms. Barnaby

48%  
have excellent  
equipment at  
home--frustrated  
by school's

## All I Want For Christmas...

- 25 brand new Power Macintosh Computers equipped with DOS cards
- appropriate and up-to-date software for all machines
- new computer lab with a full-time faculty aide
- color ink-jet and laser-jet printers
- school networking to Internet and Ethernet

-the ORHS Tech Committee

## Student Technology Survey (198 students polled)

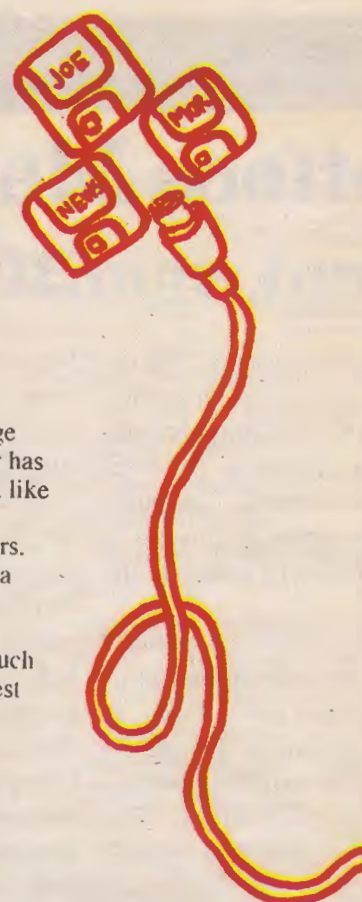
	#	%
1) Students who use computers regularly in 6 classes	3	2%
5 classes	11	6%
4 classes	27	14%
3 classes	29	15%
2 classes	46	23%
1 classes	79	40%
0 classes	3	2%
2) Students who have needed a computer in a classroom, but found none available	132	67%
3) Students who have needed a computer in the lab, but found none available	35	18%

\*Senate survey

## olve around computers

and computers. Social studies uses Science courses like chemistry and

ype many different pieces of writing st every paper for a teacher is or these days. our abilities when we are limited by lish teacher. "It's hard to give desktop publishing and other e a student a computer to use. The wspaper is frustrating."





## Tattoos Mark Student Body

Peter Beck  
Ben Jenkins  
Kirby Johns

The design is selected. The design that is to be permanently inked into Shasta Durgin's body. She sits in a chair as the artist puts on a fresh needle. The buzzing of the needle begins and a tattoo will soon be born into the world.

Why do people get tattoos? JoeFish, the shop manager of Mystic Dragon Tattoo Parlor in Dover, comments: "People often get tattoos to fulfill a need—to beautify themselves. For some it's a spiritual deal. It gives them something that's their own, that people can't take away from them."

JoeFish himself has 25 tattoos. "Tattoos become addictive," he says. Many first-time customers end up coming back to get more. He got his first when he was 13, from a friend, but strongly *does not* recommend this to others. The most important one to him is the tattoo on his right arm. "It's mystical, which is my mode in life."

Perhaps people also get tattoos because tattoos are considered a

step up from clothes in "body politics." They make an artistic statement without making the wearer of the tattoo lift a paint brush. For some, maybe it's just because they send out a rebelliously cool vibe. Whatever the reason, people today are flocking off to the tattoo parlor to become etched with words and pictures.

Most girls get tattoos on their hips or ankles, and most guys get them on their biceps or chest, according to JoeFish. A tattoo takes anywhere from 10 minutes to six hours to create, and the cost starts at 40 dollars and can go up to "a second mortgage on your house" says JoeFish.

Tattoos go beyond what they "say" in terms of the actual picture/words seen on one's body. Tattoos, up until now, could be synonymized with a group or class of people. When a person would say "tattoo," images of bikers and salty old sailors were immediately conjured up in most peoples' minds.

Yet today, more and more middle-class teenagers, guys and girls alike, are getting tat-

toos. The Mystic Dragon Tattoo Parlor garners much business from Oyster River High School alone. Seniors Shasta Durgin and Matt Derocchi have their tattoos, while Kyung Yu is planning on getting a strawberry for a tattoo in the near future.

JoeFish offers some pieces of advice for people considering getting tattooed. "Make sure it's something you want," he says. "Don't put names on yourself, except if it's your child's name. And don't move!"

Tapping her finger on the kitchen counter, Shasta is feeling a little nervous. She experiments, trying to cover the tattoo with her sock. Her parents come home and ask how her day was. She starts to sweat—she can't handle it anymore. "I got a tattoo!" she yells. Then she reveals the flowers inscribed on her ankle.

Yes, flowers. Not military memorabilia. Not "Harley Davidson/True 'til Death." But something that deviates from the public's opinion that associates body art with rough and tough giants. The tattoo is indeed gaining a wider scope of bearers.

## Mroz Looks Westward

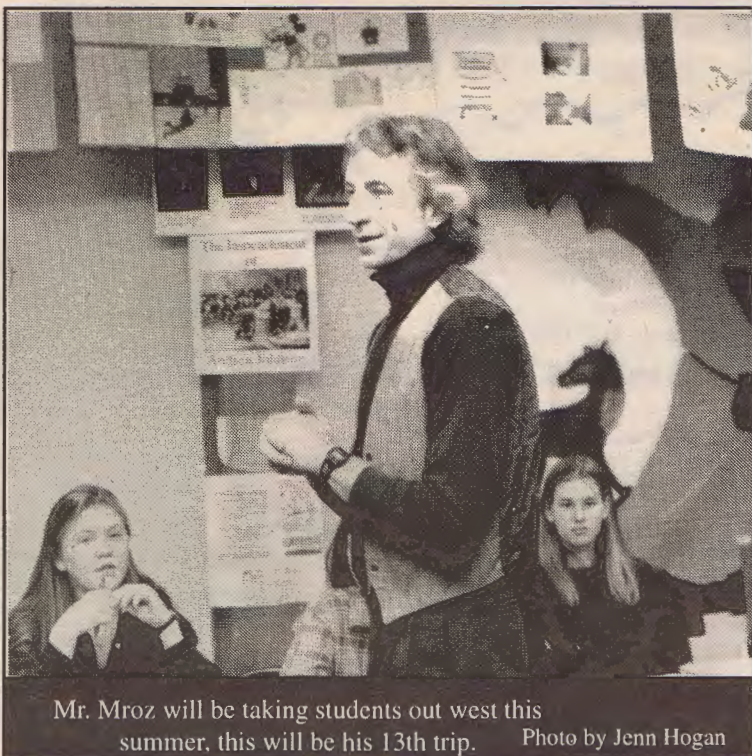
Corey Allison

Mr. Mroz's quest through the west will take place at the end of this school year. Four boys and four girls will depart on June 29th and return on July 28th from what Mr. Mroz says "I'm not superstitious but it will be my thirteenth trip."

This is the first western trip ORHS has taken. It's also, if well attended, "not going to be the last", hopes Mr. Mroz.

"I feel that everybody should take some kind of trip like this because it helps us learn about our own country," said Mr. Mroz, when asked why he wanted to take the trip.

The trip will start at OR and go southwest to New Orleans and then to the Grand Canyon and the Rocky Mountains. Some of the places being visited are the Alamo, Grand Teton National Park, and many other reservations and monuments. Also entailed in this vast adventure will be a great deal of hiking, walking, driving, sight see-



Mr. Mroz will be taking students out west this summer, this will be his 13th trip. Photo by Jenn Hogan

ing, etc...

Much camping and facing of the elements will be involved so it's a must that you be in good physical health. Due to all the camping and hiking, vanity will be limited. Hair dryers might not be the best things to bring.

Please note that all this fun

and excitement comes at a cost of \$2,000. All expenses are included. Mr. Mroz agrees that it's a high price to pay, but he also notes that it's an opportunity of a lifetime that "you'll never forget".

Students are still encouraged to see Mr. Mroz if they are interested in joining the trip.

Ben Jenkins

## Holiday CD Review: A Tribe Called Quest's "The Low End Theory"

Turn on MTV or your favorite R&B radio station. Sit back and listen as the artists that represent "hip-hop" skew what the genre stands for. Hating whites, drive by shootings, and cheesy, uninventive beats. This is the majority of mainstream rap.

Well the popular group "A Tribe Called Quest" deviates from the norm. In this issue, I review one of their older albums, the masterpiece "The Low End Theory." This album came out in the early nineties, and was one of the pioneering sounds in the "universal hip hop" movement.

"The Tribe" refuses to glorify the East Coast/West Coast debate over rap superiority. Lyrically, dual rappers "Q-Tip" and "Phife" delve into what most music of their ilk lacks: Positivism. Musically, they have a second weapon: ORIGINALITY.

For today, much of what this mainstream Billboard monster we call rap are dozens of "gangsta" poseurs. Not all of the artists, but many (Can you

say Dr. Dre? Sure you can!) rap over beats that are just lame. They sound like grocery store music emanating from the bass tube in rap's quintessential low rider mobile. A Tribe Called Quest does not conform to this fluff.

The Tribe uses live instrumentation. Each track usually consists of a drum beat, an upright bass line, and various jazzisms and funkisms provided by organ or wah-drenched guitar.

As vocalists, Phife and Q-Tip flow with the mastery of seasoned veterans. It's hard to give any opinions on the album's "brighter" tracks, for they all are virtually impossible not to groove to. But I must say that Q-Tip's freestyle (improvised rhyming for all you hip hop illiterates) on the tune "What?" is absolutely jaw-dropping. Also, the final song "Scenario" features a cameo from Busta Rhymes. Today, Busta has his own recording contract. But Tribe probably knew that would happen, right? My two thumbs up for these rhyming fools.

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Peter Beck

**Romeo and Juliet**

In the modern rendition of Romeo and Juliet, a television news caster reads the prologue of the play Romeo and Juliet. The television is bordered in black to highlight the television. This is to enficise the modern erra.

"Two house holds, both a like in dignity, In fair Verona, where we lay our scene. From ancient grudge break to new mutiny. Where civil blood makes civil hands unclean. From forth the fatal loins of these two foes. A pair of star-crossed lovers take their life.

In today's Romeo and Juliet, director has recaptured this sixteenth century play into a twentieth century movie. Being careful not to change the diologue and sticking to the orignal play he creates a movie from this famous play. The only drastic change in the in the play are the exchange from swords to guns and the making the movie for a setting in the twentieth century.

Shakespeare's plays have different interpretations The creating of the play to a movie proves this..

**Star Wars**

The trilogy is back and better than ever because it now can be seen on the big screen on January 31. This masterpice from the late seventies has been only seen by viewers only on television and on video. It now can be seen the way it should be on the big screen.

If you strike me down the force within me will be more powerful than ever. The force and the utimate power Luke Skywalker, that is what OBI is suggesting about. That is what it is all about, distiguishing against good and evil. The power of the force and the adventures of Rebellion.

With the technology today the music and the whole experience can be seen with digital sound. Fans of the "Star Wars" trilogy, you will be happy to know that the three movies have never before seen footage. So, if you are a fan or not come out and see this clasic.

**We want to know about the movies you have seen. E-mail us at MOR@Hawking.unh.edu**

**Derocchi Brings Trig To Life**

Rebecca Soderholm



Photo by David Jackson  
Matt Derocchi, a member of the "JB Racing Team", discussed how math relates to his duties.

On December 2nd, the trig classes had an in-school field trip when Matt brought in an \$80,000 race car so trigonometry students could have a hands-on experience with the gears.

Mrs. Tagliaferro asked Matt, "to show how trig can be used in real life and not just in classrooms."

Matt uses math everyday in his job on the JB Stock-Car Racing Team. He uses linear and angular velocity to adjust

the gears on the race cars. In stock-car racing, each gear must be properly adjusted for the car to perform at its best in the race.

The students in the trigonometry classes have been studying formulas for linear and angular velocity. Matt talked about how the formulas are used in his job.

Matt said, "It was a chance for me to share how important math is. I didn't think that I would need to use math but now I use it every day."

Matt has been working at the Lee USA Speedway for a year now and in that time, he has moved up from sweeping floors to rebuilding and maintaining the race cars. He has taken classes to become more knowledgeable about stock-car racing, which has made him more useful to his employers.

Matt is looking forward to continuing his education in stock-car racing, so that he can start a full-time job in the field in the beginning of 1998.

**Early Decision: A Senior Stress Reliever**

Alison Carr

The countdown is on. Right now, seniors everywhere are slaving over college applications while trying to answer impossible questions such as "What do I want to with the rest of my life?"

Not all seniors are faced with this problem. A few have already decided where they want to spend the next four years. These seniors have applied 'early decision' to colleges around the country.

Early decision is when you

sign a contract with one particular college stating that, no matter what, if you are accepted, you will attend this school. You will also know when you've been accepted a lot sooner that if you applied during regular decision.

Senior Lucia Nazzaro commented, "I think people apply to [colleges] early decision to take some of the stress off of themselves before April."

The reasons for applying early decision vary for each individual. For many, the college of choice has everything they

desire, from majors to sports to surroundings. Often times, it has to do with financial aid. Many schools offer scholarships to especially talented prospective students.

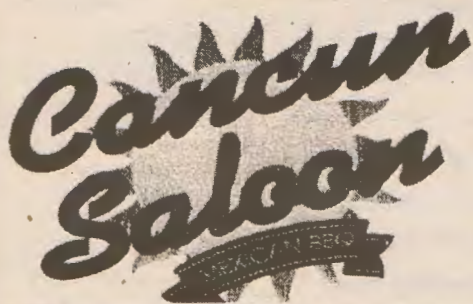
Senior Rebecca Soderholm has already been accepted to Iowa State University. She is going for several reasons, among them being the fact that both her parents attended, and, while far from home, she has relatives nearby. "I definitely wanted to go to a large college after going to such a small high school."

Lindsey Dolliver applied to UNH because it is close to home. Jeremy Zajac is going to Johnson and Wales through the Army. Cris Alvarez applied early to Virginia Tech. "I have a better chance of getting in [by applying early] and I will have time to apply to other schools, if necessary." Cris has since learned that his application has been accepted, and he will be attending the Blacksburg, Va. school in the fall.

Why do colleges support early decision? Mr. Tappan responded by saying, "Colleges

like to have a certain amount of students who are definitely going to be attending the school. Colleges also have to take into account the percentage of regular applicants who won't decide to attend, and the early decision process helps to reduce the odds of making a mistake."

Senior Beth Kraft is regretting not having applied early. "I wish I had done it early so that I would already know where I am going and so that I would not be stressing out about it now."



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## Gov.'s Daughter Making Adjustments

**Matt Whittier**

On Monday, November 5th, Jeanne Shaheen, a Durham resident was voted into the office of governor of New Hampshire. She has been one of the most publicized officials in New Hampshire during this election, but perhaps a more immediate presence is in the form of Stacey, her daughter, who is also an accomplished volleyball player, and a senior at ORHS. The election has not only had a huge impact on her mother's life: It has influenced her as well. "I haven't been able to do a lot of the things that average seniors would be doing. It has made me grow up a lot more and I'm more cautious when it comes to the social scene and speeding. Anything that happens to me could hurt my mother." Despite all of the pressures on her, Stacey has been able to do well in school, and start on the State Champion volleyball team.

Volleyball was apparently an omen of victory to the Shaheen family. "I'm kind of relieved that the election is over now. Before there was absolutely no privacy at all. There was a camera in your face at all times, and you didn't have any time to yourself." Now with her mom as the new governor of New Hampshire, there will be a little bit of lag time before she is sworn into office in January. Stacey said that the family will probably take a vacation "sometime this winter to relax" before the whole publicity cycle starts over during the first few months of the new governor's term.

It hasn't been easy for any of the family members. Stacey, Stefany (her older sister) and their father William, have all had an active part in the campaign. Stefany visited campuses, and talked to the sororities and also took part in other public speaking events. Her father, William, was formerly a judge. He was forced to resign his position on the bench because of the conflict of interest between his wife's position and his own. Despite his resignation from the bench, he is still actively working as a lawyer. Stacey said that her mother and father both spend the majority of the time going to public functions and campaigning. Because of all the time that Mr. and Mrs. Shaheen were out of the house, some good friends of the family lived at the Shaheen home to help out with the cooking and other household duties. "I find that I have a lot more responsibilities now. I have to do laundry and help out with the shopping," commented Stacey. Perhaps the most positive change that has come out of this campaign, for Stacey, is the fact that she has become much closer to her younger sister Molly, who is in the fifth grade. "My little sister and I have become really close since the campaign began. I have to make sure that she is in bed on time, and I help her with homework all the time."

Despite all of the work that has gone into this campaign, and the fact that her mom won, Stacey is glad that the election is over. "I know that this whole cycle will start over again when Mom takes office, but I am looking forward to taking some time off to look at colleges, which hasn't been a huge priority in the past few months." As of now, she is planning on looking at Dartmouth, UNH and UVM. Since her mom will now be based out of Concord, Stacey plans to stay in the New England area so she doesn't have to travel far to help out with her little sister, her mom's transition to governor or anything else that comes up.

Even though her mom defeated Ovide Lamontagne in the election, it is certainly a name that she can do without hearing for a while. The name of Ovide has hung over the Shaheen household for months, but now, finally, it is out of their system. But for how long? According to Ovide's concession speech, "pick up the signs, but save the sticks", it appears that he will come back for another try. At least Shaheen will be able to go a few more years without hearing the name Ovide day in and day out.

**What does our school need for space renovations? E-mail us at [mor@hawking.unh.edu](mailto:mor@hawking.unh.edu)**



Photo by David Jackson  
Stephanie Burns has taken over as the study hall monitor at Oyster River. Ms. Burns is also heavily involved with the Thesbian Society.

## Decisions, Decisions...

**John McKenna**

There are many Oyster River students out there concerned about school issues who are not exactly sure how to voice their opinion.

Well this is how it works: At the beginning of each year there is a school wide vote for the Senate. The Senate members are the students who promote new changes to the rules, and speak for us. They are also the ones who send out surveys in homeroom, to get information.

As far as how much power the Senate is given, Mr. Lane said "They are only permitted to make decisions that don't cost a lot of money, and that only effect the school." However they are also the voice of the students, whom the faculty consult about the changes that the majority of the school want. Larger decisions, such as open campus, parking, and a smoking section are not left for the students to decide upon, because of the fact that the parents on the school board want to have control over issues this big.

If anyone has any concerns about any school issues, you should contact Mr. Lane for guidance, and then contact your class Senate members to have them do what they can.

Mr. Lane has said, "I think that it is great that the students want to get involved with the decisions, and with the ways things are done, and they should contact a member of their Senate members if they have any suggestions."

**Voice your concerns by talking with your class Senators!**

## School to Work in the Groove

**Heather Fiore**

Along with everything the Oyster River faculty is doing for the students and their futures comes the School to Work Program. It's a program that is open to all Oyster River students, whether they're planning to go to an Ivy League college or straight into a career from high school.

Stephen Lord, the resource room teacher, is the coordinator of the "School to Work" program at ORHS. About the program, he says, "It's really about students being prepared to move on to college or technical school."

"It is unfortunate that the New Hampshire title is School to Work. It is actually an effort which addresses career development, preparing students for higher education and/or technical training, and changing schools to meet the needs of students who will be entering a more technical and complicated work world. The work of Advisory Council addresses all of these issues."

Mr. Lord, along with other

teachers working on the program feel that students need more specialized training for jobs now, this program is the best way of helping students to get training.

The council consists of eleven members, two are students.

The major task, for now, is setting up a career day, probably sometime around the end of March. People will come in and talk to students about careers to pursue after their schooling.

There will be a banquet held on January 16th to give recognition to the people who made major contributions to the program. Among them will be Bob Fratti of the Airmart Corporation who supplied many jobs for students.

This program should make students more prepared for the work world, and give them direction early on in their lives so that no time is wasted in finding their career choice. A few years down the road the students will be able to look back and see the difference it made to have had the guidance of School to Work.

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# Students Draw the Line on Promiscuity

Joe Beland and Abbi Green

Back in the parking lot stands a group of high school girls. Wendy, a junior, says, "What are you guys doing tonight?" Sarah, a senior replies, "I don't know, but I'd like to hang out with Jim tonight, he was looking fine today in that tank-top." The girls respond, "Oh yeah, girlfriend, get a piece of that!" Another girl interjects into the conversation, "Sarah, weren't you with Rob last weekend?" Sarah replies, "Yeah, that was good."

Standing, silently, by the car is Jane. She approaches the girls, "Are you proud of that? Isn't that slutty?" The girls look at her in shock. One replies, "It's fun! And it's play!" Jane says, "That's not fun, its just abused promiscuity."

After a major victory, the boys' varsity team celebrates in their sweaty locker room. The

coach extols them for their efforts, saying, "You guys battled hard; all of those fans are so proud of you!" The players applaud their coach. Once he leaves, however, the storytelling begins.

Jack, the senior captain on the team, says, "Hey, Jim, after you broke up with Tina, I got with her the next night!

I guess I caught her on the rebound." Jim replies, undauntedly, "She never meant that much to me, I got it whenever I wanted to."

The conversation goes back and forth, with almost every

member of the team describing some sexual scenario with some girl they do not even care about. Rick, a freshman says, "I was with this girl, told her I loved her, and the next thing I

knew I was in her room. Got what I wanted, and have not talked to her since."

"When a person has multiple sexual partners at this age, and having more than one partner at once. If someone has no respect for their body, I guess that would be promiscuous." --Kate Swanson, Senior

Another team member responds, "Was that Emily? She has been around like the common cold!" The freshman replies, "Everything goes....."

This story is no myth, but a reality in every high school in America. It is even a problem here at Oyster River. When students described their sexual relationships in high school, one word was consistent throughout the responses: Promiscuity: In a recent study in the U.S., 70% of high school graduates lost their virginity before receiving their diploma.

Some draw the line of inappropriate sexual behavior, or being promiscuous, at the amount of partners people have had in the past, while some simply say it is a matter of having sex with someone you don't care about, even if only once.

To Chris Merenda, an Oyster River senior, promiscuity is,



Photo by Jenn Hogan

Students are discuss their views on promiscuity. It is evident that students views differ, but why? Abbi green and Joe Beland try to unlock the reasons why each of us views sexuality differently.

"a sexual involvement without feeling or emotion towards your partner."

Kate Swanson, a senior, believes it is "When a person has multiple sexual partners at this age, and having more than one partner at once. If someone has no respect for their body, I guess that would be promiscuous."

To junior Dave Jerard, it isn't about the number of partners. He says that if you care about your partner and are in a good relationship, having sex many times is not promiscuous.

Andrea Lord, a freshman, believes that being promiscuous means having a new sexual partner every weekend. Meri Watson, a junior, says being promiscuous means putting yourself in danger or others in danger.

A lot of people brought the idea of parents having something to do with their morals. As Jeannemarie Celantano, a junior, put it, "Morals should go beyond saying sex is good, or sex is bad." She said it was a matter of giving you children the tools to deal with sexuality in the situations that this world was going to put them in. Everyone seemed to say that the more they communicated with their parents, the more likely they'd be to tell their parents when they were in trouble and ask for help.

Dave Jerard said, "In a community like this (OR) there is strong parenting so less people have had sex." It was his opinion that sexual behavior was directly related to the type of parents you have.

Webster's Random House Dictionary describes promiscuity as, "Characterized by or having numerous sexual partners on a casual basis." But who decides what's regular basis, or what's casual?

In a survey of 50 OR students on the topic of sex, 46% said that they were sexually active. Of the students who had already had sex, 44% have had more than one partner. By definition then, about a fourth of Oyster River students are promiscuous. Although most people want to give off the attitude that they're okay with the "anything goes" mentality, many people were surprised at these results.

It's obvious that everyone has their own interpretations of what is right and wrong. According to Greg Friel, a senior, "People may not necessarily regret things they do because you can take something positive and something negative from every situation." Overall, though, people feel if you're responsible and respectful of yourself and others you aren't considered promiscuous.



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49.9 to 50.7
50.8 to 60.9
61.0 to 63.3
63.4 to 66.5



## Gender Equality Where Do We Stand?

Alison Carr  
John Dubiansky

Equal opportunity is an issue everywhere. Lately, more and more attention has been focused on schools and whether or not females have the same opportunities to excel as males. In many schools, girls have complained that they are ignored by teachers, or that they don't have a fair chance in sports.

How is Oyster River handling equal opportunity? Well, we do have equal opportunities in sports, according to Mr. Lane. He said that, as a school, we are required to present an equal opportunity. He cited Title IX, which basically says that no one can be treated differently because of their sex. When asked for his opinion on how well Oyster River has followed the law, he said that we are doing a "Good job".

Students seem to agree with Mr. Lane that the school and teachers are doing a good job of presenting an equal opportunity. 14 out of 18 students interviewed said they felt most teachers exhibited equal oppor-

tunity in their classroom (interviewees were both male and female). However, 17 out of 18 students say there is still room for improvement.

Most teachers interviewed said they feel that they do their best to make their classes balanced. Social Studies and Economics teacher, Mrs. Perry said, "In my class, it depends on who comes prepared, not on what their sex is." Most teachers had similar statements.

How does ORHS compare to the rest of the nation? Well, it appears that students are better off here than at other schools across the country because, despite what many ORHS students believe, statistics show that even now, teachers are subtly favoring boys over girls. These statistics were part of a study done by the American Association of University Women. The study says that in classes, boys are twice as likely to be seen as role models, five times more likely to receive a teacher's attention and twelve times as likely to speak up in class.

How does this happen? It begins with the typical stereotypes of men and women. Boys are

generally thought of as clever, brave, creative, and resourceful, while girls are portrayed as kind, dependent, and docile. Boys are also praised more often for academics and intellectual work where girls are praised for such things as what they are wearing, behaving "properly", and for following the rules.

Students seemed to have strong opinions about Affirmative Action. Many female students felt it was not a solution to the problem. One student said that it created resentment from other employees. Other students feel people should be hired because of skill, not because of law.

When asked about life outside of school, students were divided about equal opportunity. While most agreed there was room for improvement, it was a split on how society is doing now.

The words of Missi Membrino sum up the opinions of many students in this school, "Society is different from school. Outside this little dreamworld, it's a whole other world."



Photo by David Jackson

Shelley Weeks will be leaving Oyster River in mid-January, and will be relocating to Syracuse, New York.

## Her Warm Smile Will Be Greatly Missed

Kate Nichols

For the past ten years, ORHS has been blessed with a happy face everyday. In mid-January, the principal's secretary, Shelley Weeks, is relocating to Syracuse, New York.

Over the years, Ms. Weeks has helped maintain sanity throughout the school. Everyday her work consists of many activities: Helping to prepare the budget, keeping records of school deposits and expenditures for student activities, preparing appointments for Mr. Cairns, and helping the seniors get ready for graduation. She also keeps the scorebook at the boys' and girls' home basketball games.

Ms. Weeks has lived in New Hampshire all of her life, so she considers this to be a "very big move." She is very excited, but says that it will be difficult to leave Oyster River.

Ms. Weeks has become very close with all of the staff and students. At any time during the school day Ms. Weeks has a student in her office: Talking, sharing problems, or helping out. Ms. Weeks is always there to lend a smile, give a hug, or some friendly advice.

Last year, when Ms. Brown passed away Ms. Weeks was greatly affected. She had been very close with Ms. Brown for about eight years. As all of the students and faculty suffered from the traumatic loss, Ms. Weeks acted as a counselor to everyone. The staff has since realized how much work Ms. Weeks has done for them and for the school.

Mr. Maynard, the gym teacher and boys' basketball coach,

said, "She has done more work behind the scenes than anyone realizes." Ms. Weeks has helped Mr. Maynard in many ways "Whether it be matters of money, athletics, or parenting advice, she's always there to help."

Dave Nichols, the athletic director, girls' basketball coach, and math teacher, stated that, "Ms. Weeks is like a part of my family. She has helped me out a lot when times got tough." He also said that Ms. Weeks, along with being the principal's secretary, is also the "athletic director's secretary."

Mr. Lane said that, "Losing Ms. Weeks will be a major loss to our school. She has dedicated herself to the staff and students in a selfless manner. She will be greatly missed."

When asked if there was anything else he would like to say about her, Mr. Lane stated "That's as mild as I can put it, cause I don't know what the heck we'd do without her."

Ms. McPhee, a gym teacher, said, after some consideration, "Ms. Weeks is a spark of energy that our school will truly miss. Thanks for your work and dedication! I'll truly miss you!"

As Ms. Weeks gets ready to leave, we will only begin to realize what she has done for Oyster River. Known to some as "Auntie Shelley", or to others as that "lady down near the principal's office", Ms. Weeks will be greatly missed. Thank you for everything Ms. Weeks, come back to visit soon!

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## Ryan Pemberton Winter Track

Heejung Kim

There are people who find running an incredibly tedious activity, and then there are people like senior Ryan Pemberton who enjoys running. "I've found [running] to be an excellent way to release stress and pent-up energy," he says. Ryan Pemberton has been running indoor and outdoor track for 4 years.

During winter (indoor) track, he runs the 160m, 55m, 300m, and the 600m. Ryan also runs two relays on the team with four

## Winter Sports Profiles

other runners: The 160m relay and the 400m relay. During spring track, he runs the 200m and the 400m, as well as the 100m and 400m relay.

Ryan's relay team has placed third at Londonderry and third at the Class I Championship. He has also placed in the top 6 at other meets in the 300m, and in the top 10 in the 55m.

During the outdoor (spring) season, Ryan's placed in the top three at most meets in the 400m and 200m races.

When Ryan has free time, he enjoys participating in extreme sports like BASE jumping, tree-climbing, and skydiving. His goals for the future are ambitious. Ryan hopes to major in the prostheses and prosthetics field, and minor in neutral engineering. He's looking to go to UNH, Lowell, Keene, or Franklin Tech.

Even if Ryan does not have the opportunity to run track in college, Ryan is confident that his running ability will come in handy. About running in col-

lege, Pemberton says, "It's kill or be killed, you cannot go into college assuming that you'll run track. You are being judged by a much higher standard."

Regardless of Ryan Pemberton's college track career, it is clear to all that he has left his mark of excellence in track at Oyster River.

## Irene Jenkins, Ice Hockey

Kirby Johns

Irene Jenkins plays hockey.

This fact is not so incredible unto itself—more and more girls now are taking up the sport—but she is rather unique as she is the only girl in Oyster River High School's hockey program.

Irene, a sophomore, tried for the hockey team this fall and made JV. She plays left defense. "I'm happy with JV," she said in a recent interview. "I know some of the guys don't want me



to play, but it's something I just have to do for myself."

Irene has been playing since she was six. She learned how to skate from her brothers, on the pond in back of her house. She tried figure skating for a year, but decided that wasn't for her. The next year, she started in the House League of the ORYA hockey program.

When Irene reached the PeeWee level at age 13, she had to make a decision. That level introduced checking into the rules, and she wasn't sure she wanted to play at that level. She contemplated skating in an all-girls' league, but ultimately decided it was too far away to

travel every weekend (90 minutes).

Dan McClain, a senior on the junior varsity team, comments, "[Irene's] facing a lot of difficulty, and I respect her incredibly."

The worst aspect this year is that, "I don't feel as close to the guys as I did before [last year she played with the Bantams]—a lot of them are older, I've never been on a team with them."

Irene doesn't see herself as a "role model" or "setting a precedent" for other girls—there have been girls on the hockey team in the past—but she hopes that by her playing, other girls will want to play.

She offers this advice to girls who want to be on the hockey team: "Don't shy away after the one practice. Show them you can get up at 4:00. Don't cry when you fall down. Give it a week, so they know that you're not a wuss; that you're going to work just as hard as they are."

"I just want to play hockey," Irene says. "And that's what I'm doing."

## Youth, New Coach Guide Girls' Basketball

Erin Carter and Matt Whittier

The Girls' Varsity basketball team is ready for a rebuilding year after the 1995-1996 season ended with a disappointing record of 4-13. They lost 5 seniors from last year and are hoping to fill in the gaps. The 1995-96 squad is led by the three returning seniors: Jen Lancaster, Megan Bowse and Stephanie Zaidlicz. The junior class sends Kendra Oxford, Laura Hallisey, Jen Sweatt, Meaghan McNally, Casey Hopkins and Nicole Johnson to the floor while Kate Nichols and Julie Kowal, both sophomores, round out the team.

"We've sort of been overshadowed by the boys in the past but

I think this year people will recognize our growing abilities and talent," said senior Varsity player Jen Lancaster. Jen has been injured but had her cast removed from her hand in time to play in the girls' home opener on Wednesday, December 11. The girls' played number one seeded

Laconia. Both the JV and the Varsity suffered tough losses. JV lost 52-6, while the varsity came up short, losing 83-11.

Sophomore Varsity starter, Julie Kowal responded; "I think it was rough starting against a

team like Laconia, but we'll put this game behind us, concentrate on the rest of the season, and do fine."

During the preseason the girls' team scrimmaged Raymond and Epping. They also played in the Portsmouth Tournament and against ORHS alumni.

First year

girls' varsity coach, Mr. Nichols returns from an eight year hiatus to lead the varsity team this year. He previously coached the boys' varsity team for eight years, and led them to a state championship in 1988.

**"I think we're going to be awesome, we have a lot of spunk!"**  
- Senior Co-Captain Stephanie Zaidlicz

Nichols commented on the girls performance this season by saying, "I think they're playing aggressively, which is what I wanted. We haven't been as successful on the scoreboard as we would like, but hopefully that will come."

Senior co-captain Megan Bowse said, "I hope that Mr. Nichols can help us become a better team. Maybe he brought his state championship winning coaching with him."

Senior Stephanie Zaidlicz, also a team co-captain, responded positively for the future of the team saying, "I think we're going to be awesome, we have a lot of spunk!"

## Indoor Track Takes Winter Strides

Mike Nolan

The snow has fallen, the trees are going up, but the heat and sweat stays with the few and the strong: The indoor track team. This year has turned up some unexpected athletes gearing for a state championship.

All events are indoors, the running events are shorter, and many times are faster. The javelin and discus have been eliminated, but the 34 athletes are "on their toes" according to coach Allison Cohen and Joe Scascitelli, who hold practices everyday after school, from 3-5 PM.

"I have high expectations for this group of individuals, and believe we have a fighting chance," commented coach Cohen.

First year participant Tom Townsend is taking part in the shot-put competition. This is his first time in this event and he is psyched, although he is unsure of what to expect, "Hey, it's better than being a couch-potato."

"I hope there is going to be a lot of support, because it's going to be a great year!" said Lucia Nazzaro.



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## Boys' Basketball Team Living Up To Championship Image

### Heejung Kim

In the OR boys' basketball home-opener versus St. Thomas of Dover, the team accumulated 36 points, a total that was usually equal to the first quarter total of seasons past, as they lost to STA 40 to 36. David Jackson, a senior, said, "The offensive part needs to come together." Certainly the team will hope to battle back offensively when they face talent-packed Bishop Brady today. Jackson said, "Our defense is, and will certainly continue to be, tenacious."

With the departure of the "Super Seven", including Keith Friel of the 2000 point club and hardworking Brad Taylor, does the boys' varsity basketball team have any hope of success

for the upcoming season? "There's no question that we lost a lot of experience," said coach Don Maynard. "There are so many new players [this year]; they didn't know what was expected of them, but they've done very well so far."

With only one starter, Greg Friel, returning to play varsity basketball this year, one might say that the boys have a tough season ahead of them. However, after only a few practices, the team faced off and beat: York High School, Coe-Brown Academy, and most recently, Spaulding High School (84-62), in preseason scrimmages. They also played an alumni game, which they won, 75-63.

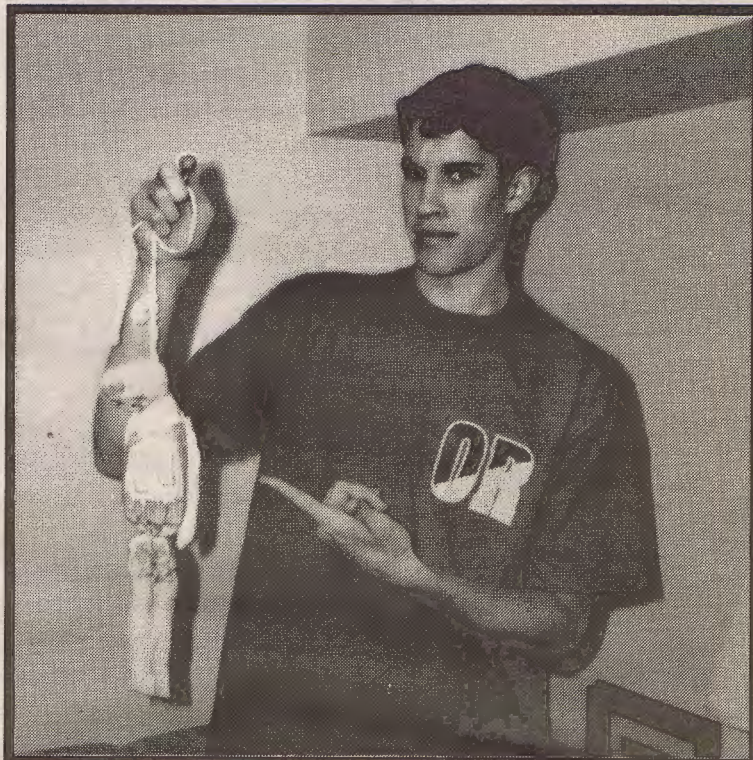
Coach Maynard was particularly enthusiastic on the subject

of the team's attitude and chemistry. "Every other year that I've been here, there's been at least two guys that just really didn't hit it off—this year, I haven't seen that at all. The attitudes are as good as they've ever been during the time that I've been here."

Last year's championship-winning team had only one loss to Bishop Brady (55-58) and a 40-2 record over the last two years.

Sherif Farag, a senior and co-captain with senior Greg Friel, said, "Day in and day out, we'll have to give 100%."

"We don't have as much raw talent this year as we did last year, but I still think that we can have a successful season," said Mike Casey, a sophomore.



Greg Friel holds a voodoo doll made by Kennett fans last year. Friel scored his 1000th point Tuesday.

Photo by Dave Jackson

## Hockey Showcases Talents At Jamboree

### Liz Rosengren

This season's varsity boys hockey team is off to a great start thanks to the acquisition of some great new players, a strong returning defensive unit, and "one of the best coaches in the league," according to team captain Matt Whittier.

At the recent seacoast hockey jamboree, the bobcats went 3-0 beating Spaulding, St. Thomas, and Kingswood. The jamboree included one period games between seacoast area clubs as well as various skill competitions.

Everyone seems very optimistic about this season. "We're projecting a winning season," said coach Griff Richard, who considers size and defense to be the teams greatest strengths. Jeremy Gasowski commented "overall it should be a good sea-

son." Coach Richard said "I was very proud that they picked up everything in such a short time. I just don't want it to go to their heads because a jamboree is nothing." He considered Christian Quint, Chris Merenda, Matt Whittier, and Chris McDowell to be the key players.

Making up this years strong defense are, returning players Matt Whittier, Jeremy Beaudette, Scott Howard, Sean Burke, and Miles Guilette. These players complete what may be the strongest defense in their division. New players Aaron Berry, freshmen Joe Bouchard and Colin Burke will help to balance out the gaps in this years team. "I didn't expect them to have the talent they did. They're big and aggressive," commented Matt Whittier.

## New Gymnastics Team Draws Interest

### Ryan Samuel

In its first year competing, the Oyster River gymnastics team is having a wonderful time. With ten members, there is definitely an interest in the sport.

Nicole Wilkinson, who has been involved in gymnastics since she was very young, helped assemble this team with her coaches. They were interested in presenting an opportu-

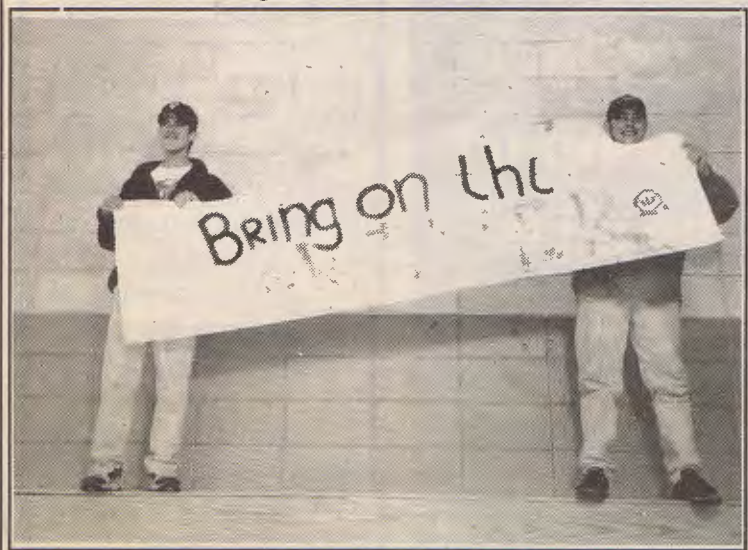
nity to students of competing with others in their talent level. They brought it to the School Board and it was approved for funding in October. Now ORHS is well on it's way with a strong season ahead of them.

Current members are Nicole Wilkinson, Reisha Sanders, Kim Parsons, Rachel Merton, Rachel Gooze, Heather Fiore, Beatrice Richman, Kristy Tryder, Katie McGerral, and

Abbi Drake. The team's strong points seem to be in floor and on bars.

As for the future of the Oyster River gymnastics team, there are 5 underclassmen currently on the team.

With the teams first meet on the 19th and a whole season ahead of them gymnastics could be the new favorite sport at Oyster River.



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